



Utah Department of Health - 1,000 Day Plan Milestones

Beginning February 4, 2002

Day 5, February 8, the Utah Department of Health (UDOH) and A Healthier You 2002 announced that 120 Gold Medal Miles had been organized and walked throughout Utah communities from 2000-2002. More than 15,000 Utahns earned collector Gold Medal Mile Olympic pins for their effort. During the Olympic games an additional 25 Gold Medal Miles were held at Olympic venues where spectators earned approximately 67,000 Gold Medal Mile Pins. A Healthier You 2002 events will continue through the end of 2002.

Day 6, February 9, the UDOH received approval to provide 25,000 working adults in Utah with health insurance. This approval was personally approved by Secretary of Health and Human Services Tommy Thompson and was signed in Salt Lake City during the Olympic Games.

Day 9, Feb.12, emergency on-call staff from the Bureau of Microbiology was activated to provide testing on a possible anthrax hit at the Salt Lake City Airport. DOH Laboratory microbiologists, working in partnership with CDC personnel, tested the sample using several different methods and determined it was not *Bacillus anthracis* or anthrax.

Day 57, April 1, the Community Partnered Mobile Dental Services was the reason Central and Eastern Utah Area Health Education Centers received the National AHEC award for 'Project of the Year' this year. AHEC added to the success of the mobile clinic by helping with volunteer recruitment, educational experiences, planning and local community coordination. The Community Partnered Mobile Dental Services has expanded rural care to a year-round schedule; due to an effective partnership with three Rural Community Health Centers and a very large Federal Grant that we were able to obtain together. Approximately 2,500 rural residents of 10 targeted communities receive care annually. We also visit Ibapah and Southeast Utah, Goshute and Navajo reservations annually.

Day 74, April 18, the UDOH announces the new State Epidemiologist, CDC trained Dr. Robert Rolfs, M.D., M.P.H., to guide the state's disease prevention and bioterrorism response efforts.

Day 90, May 4, the UDOH completes and releases a survey of more than 900 Hispanic adults in Utah. The report reveals striking differences between

Hispanics and non-Hispanics for certain health conditions, risk behaviors, health care access and other major health related issues. Diabetes, obesity and access to health care were identified as major health issues for Hispanics.

Day 103, May 17, the UDOH's Truth From Youth Anti-Tobacco Campaign presented 41 awards for original anti-tobacco ads taken from 8,000 elementary, junior and high school entries.

Day 109, May 23, Utah ranked 3rd by the Anne E. Casey Foundation in the KIDS Count report for serving the needs of Utah's Children.

Day 109, May 23 - Utah's 52 Gold Medal School's finish up a successful first year with 24,783 elementary students walking more than 892,188 Gold Medal Miles! Thanks to the UDOH's Gold Medal School Initiative, this past school year has seen both students and teachers getting healthier throughout the state.

Day 118, June 1, the Early Childhood Target Case Management (TCM) service celebrates its first year. This service is available to children born to women enrolled in the Medicaid program. Children receive a visit from a Public Health Nurse (PHN) trained to assess risk factors, identify related needs and make referrals based on their findings. Providing this link to services helps meet the needs of the child during their first year. In the past year 2,386 Medicaid children received a visit from a Public Health Nurse (PHN) resulting in over 3,000 referrals to local community resources.

Day 120, June 3-14, the UDOH opened enrollment for Utah's Child Health Insurance Program (CHIP) receiving 6,078 applications; 18 percent of the applications were submitted online. During the two-week open enrollment period, 13,505 children applied and 6,249 were eligible to receive benefits bringing current CHIP enrollment to 22,702. Another enrollment period is expected in the fall.

Day 121, June 4, UDOH Laboratory hosted five state laboratory directors, who toured the laboratory. The states they represented were, South Dakota, Vermont, Florida, Arkansas and Connecticut. These directors were particularly interested in the laboratory's experience during the Winter Olympics.

Day 130, June 13, the UDOH released Utah's Arthritis Report and Utah's Arthritis Plan. These documents represent the first comprehensive report on arthritis prevalence and risk in Utah and a plan to address the burden of arthritis in Utah, respectively. It was previously recognized that arthritis is the largest cause of disability in the US, but little was known about arthritis in Utah. Utah's Arthritis Report presents data indicating that nearly 30% of Utah adults have arthritis and it is a primary cause of disability. Now, with the release of Utah's Arthritis Plan, the UDOH and its partners have taken an important step towards a coordinated effort to reduce the burden of arthritis in Utah.

Day 147, June 30, more than 13,000 Utahns called the Utah Tobacco Quit Line for help. Demand was so impressive that, at times, Utah's call volumes met or exceeded those of states with larger populations and higher tobacco use rates. More than 25% of those who enrolled in counseling services were able to quit. Research shows only 6% of smokers are able to quit without help.

Day 148, July 1, immunization requirements for school entry in Utah now include the hepatitis A and chickenpox vaccines. Beginning July 1, 2002, two doses of the hepatitis A vaccine and one dose of the chickenpox vaccine will be required for all kindergarten age children to protect against preventable diseases.

Day 148, July 1, the UDOH launches the Primary Care Network welcoming 25,000 working Utah Adults to health insurance. This new form of Medicaid coverage is the first of its kind in the nation. The Network will remain open to eligible adults until 25,000 adults are covered. To date, the program has accepted 8,018 applications; 13 percent of which were submitted online. To date, 1,863 applicants have been approved.

Day 158, July 11, the UDOH launches an Olympic Public Health list serve linking public health officials from past and future host cities and bid cities. This will allow more timely and complete sharing of lessons learned and access to consultation regarding the major public health impacts of hosting the games including emergency medical services, disease monitoring, food and environmental regulation, public information, health promotion, and disaster preparedness.

Day 178, July 31, the UDOH received final approval from the Centers for Disease Control to begin utilizing \$9.97 million in federal funds to prevent and respond to acts of bioterrorism to enhance public health systems and resources. The CDC grant will provide personnel, training and resources to state and local health departments. The grant's six sections infrastructure building in planning, epidemiology, laboratory, professional development, public risk communication and information dissemination and expansion of the Health Alert Network.

Day 192, August 14, public health leaders from Utah and Nevada signed a memorandum of understanding between the two states to formally establish the Great Basin Public Health Leadership Institute. By October 31, 2004, the first class of the Great Basin Public Health Leadership Institute will have selected the first class and initiated leadership education in Utah and Nevada.

Day 200, August 22, the UDOH announces the creation of the State agency's Health Advisory Council (HAC). The Governor-appointed, nine-member council will assist the Department on strategic direction and be a sounding board for the public. The HAC will assist the Executive Director's Office in setting Department priorities and advising on budget and policy issues. Dr. George White, PhD.,

Chair of the University of Utah Department of Community and Family Health has been appointed Chair of the Council.

This list will be updated monthly and is available at www.health.utah.gov